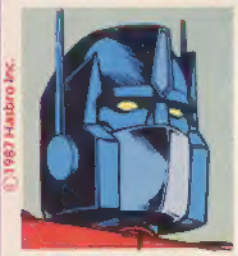
MARVEL®



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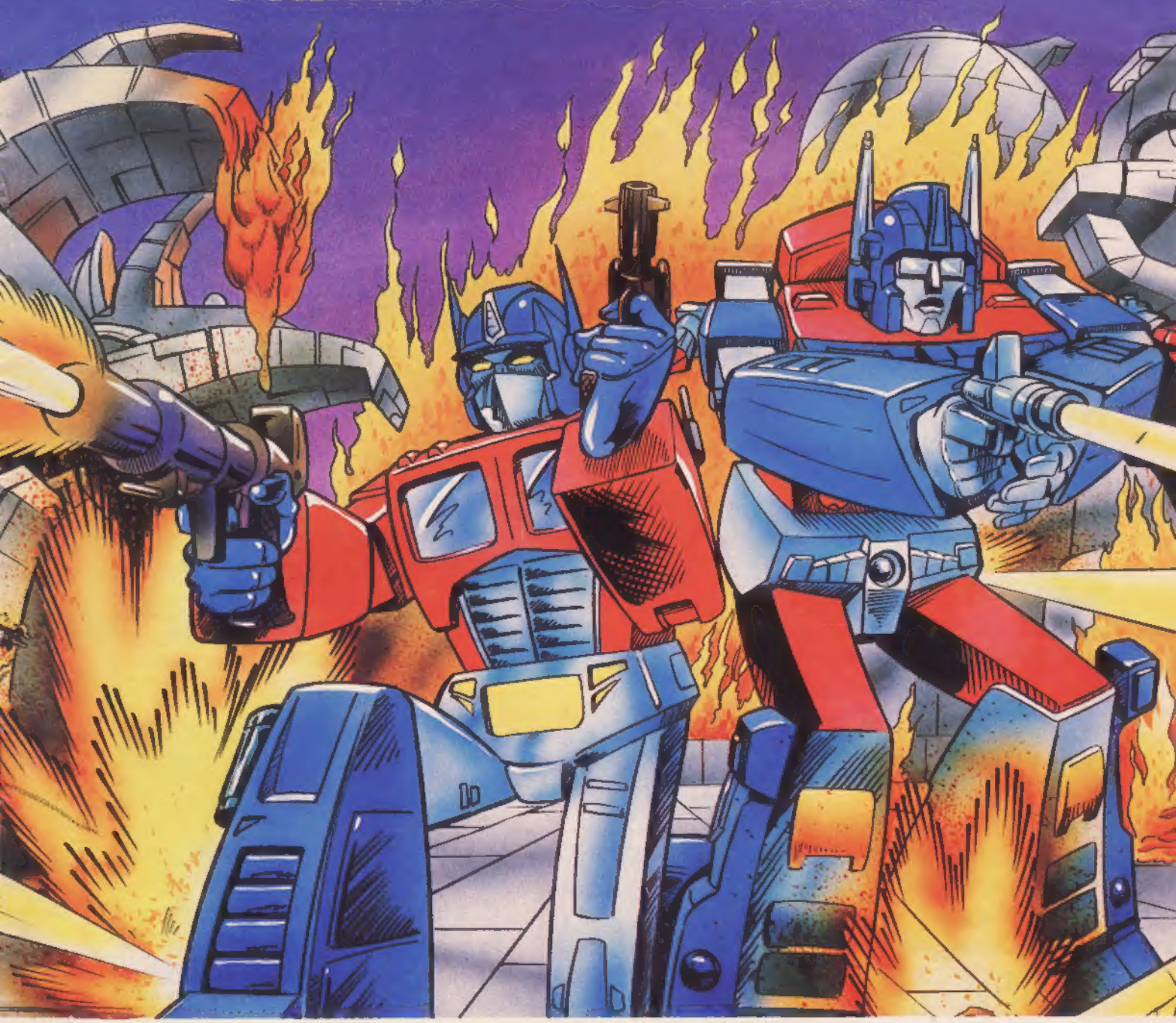
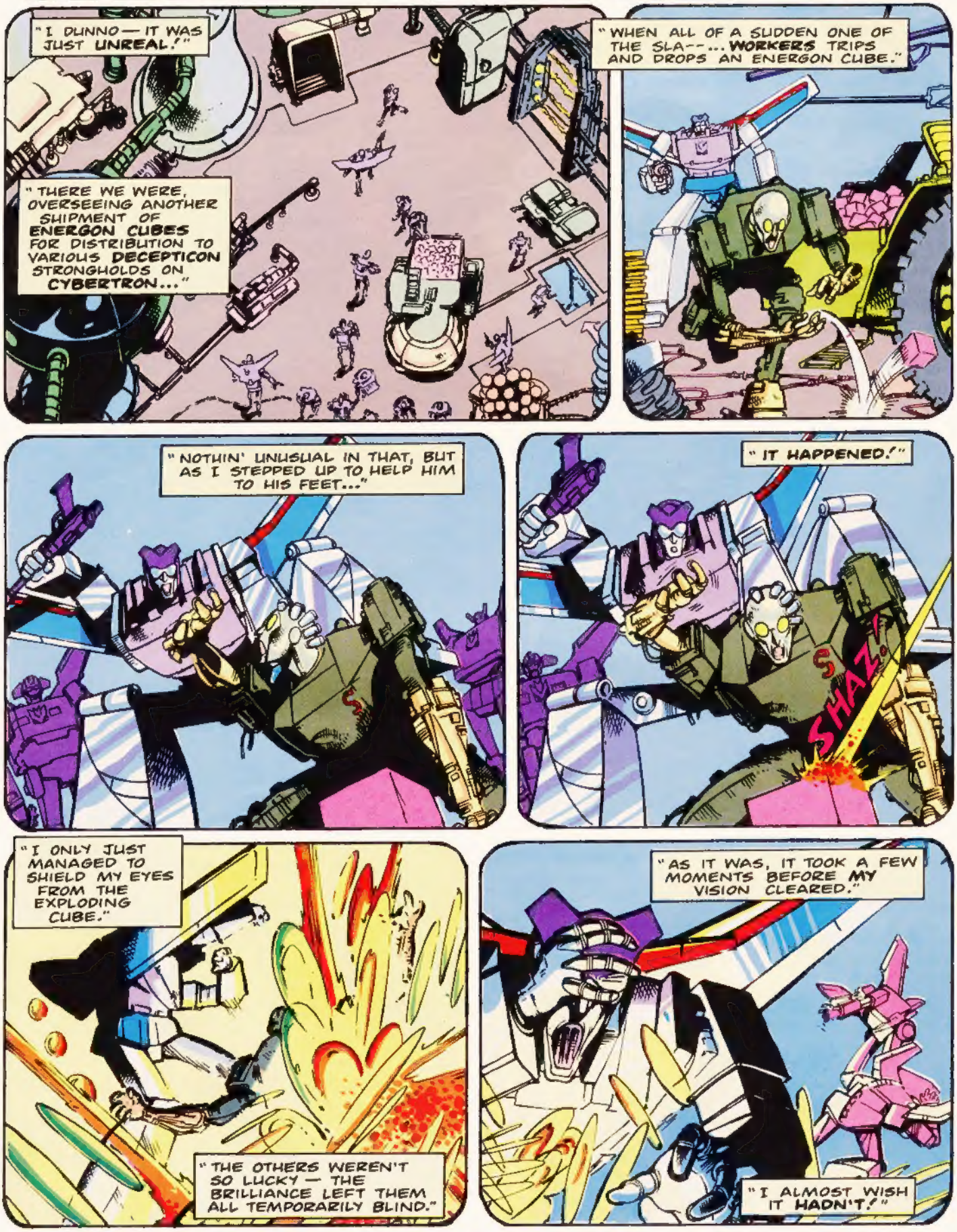
THE TRANSFORMERS™

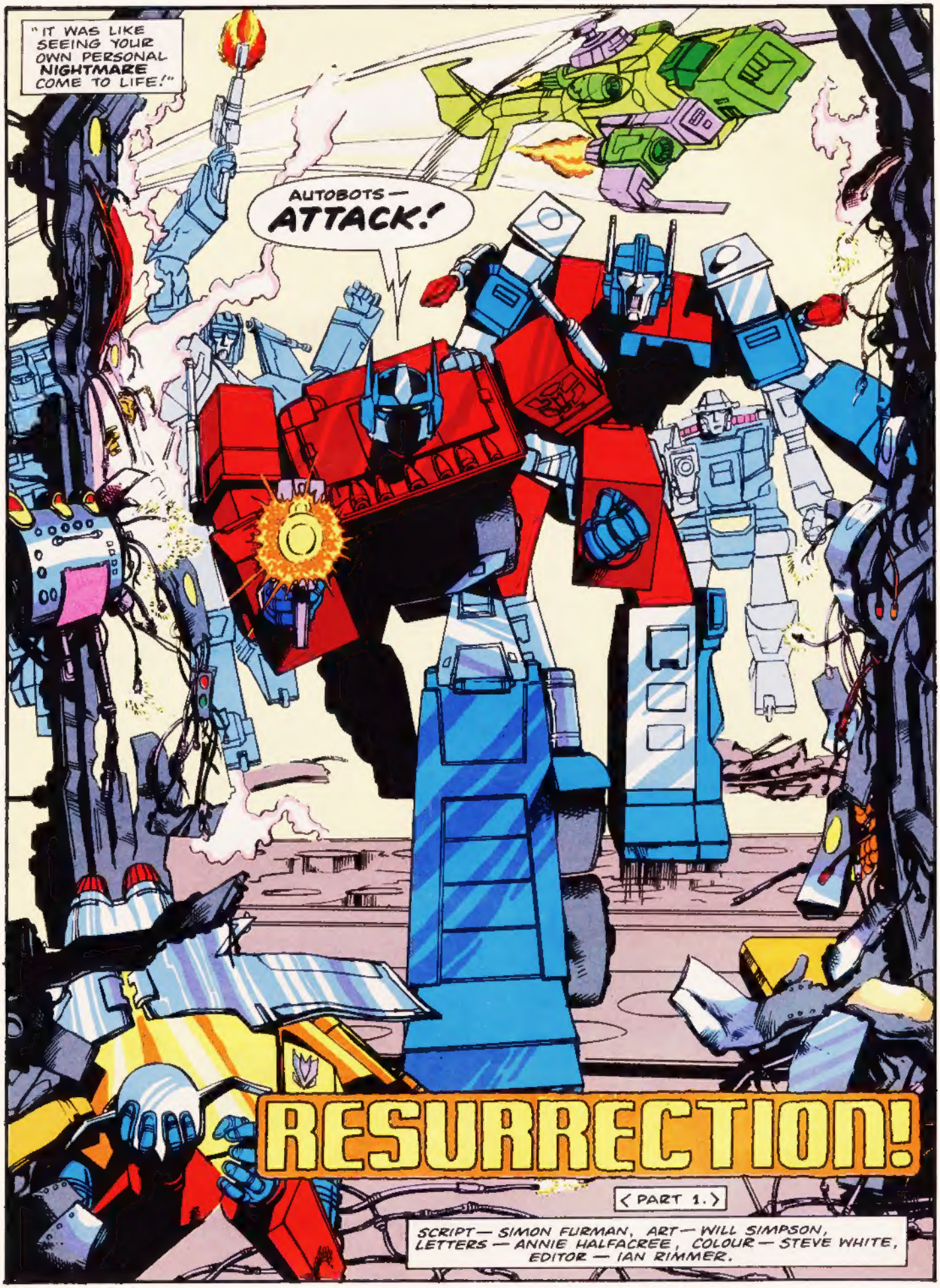
HEROIC AUTOBOT

PRIME AND MAGNUS...

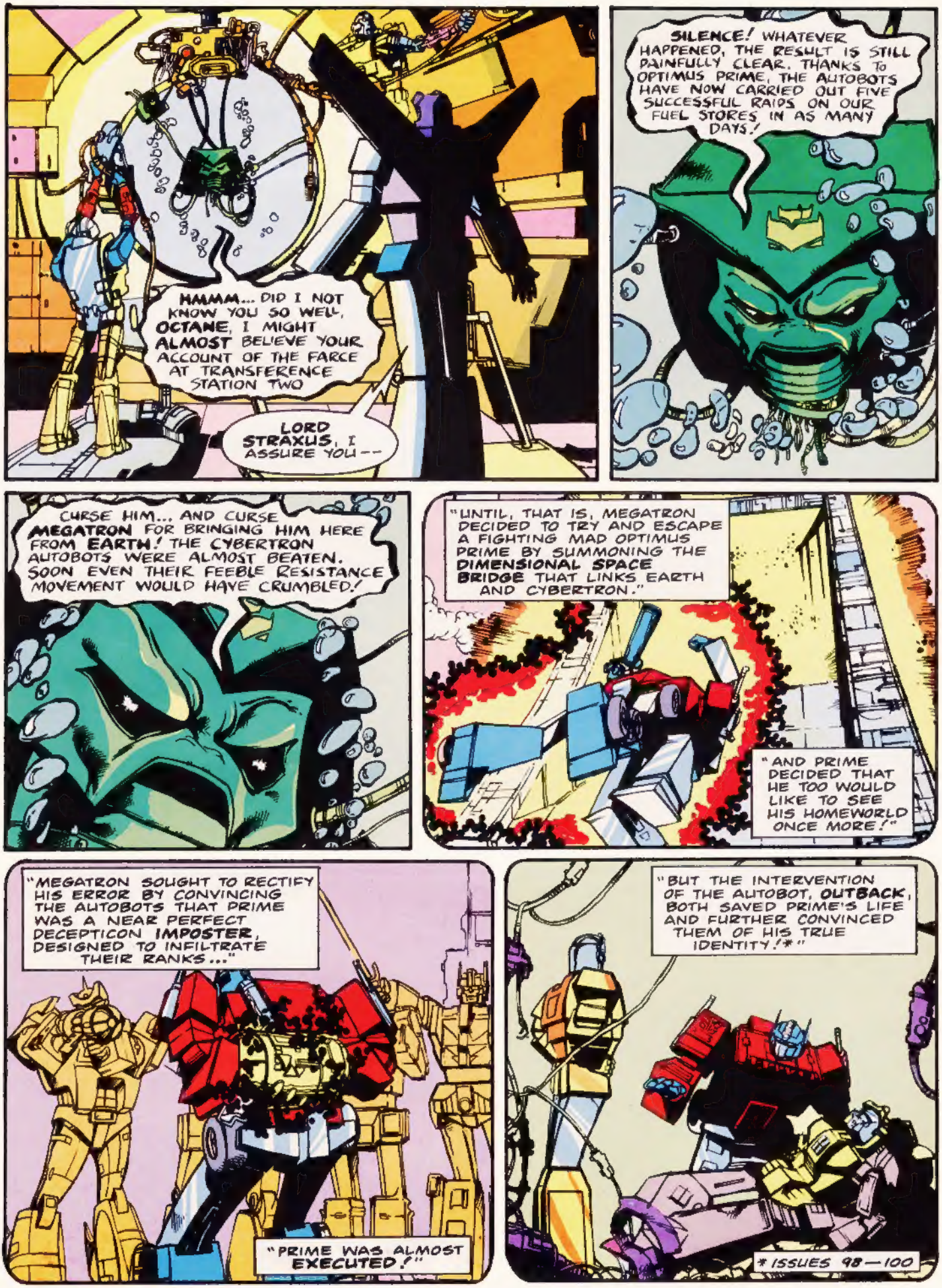


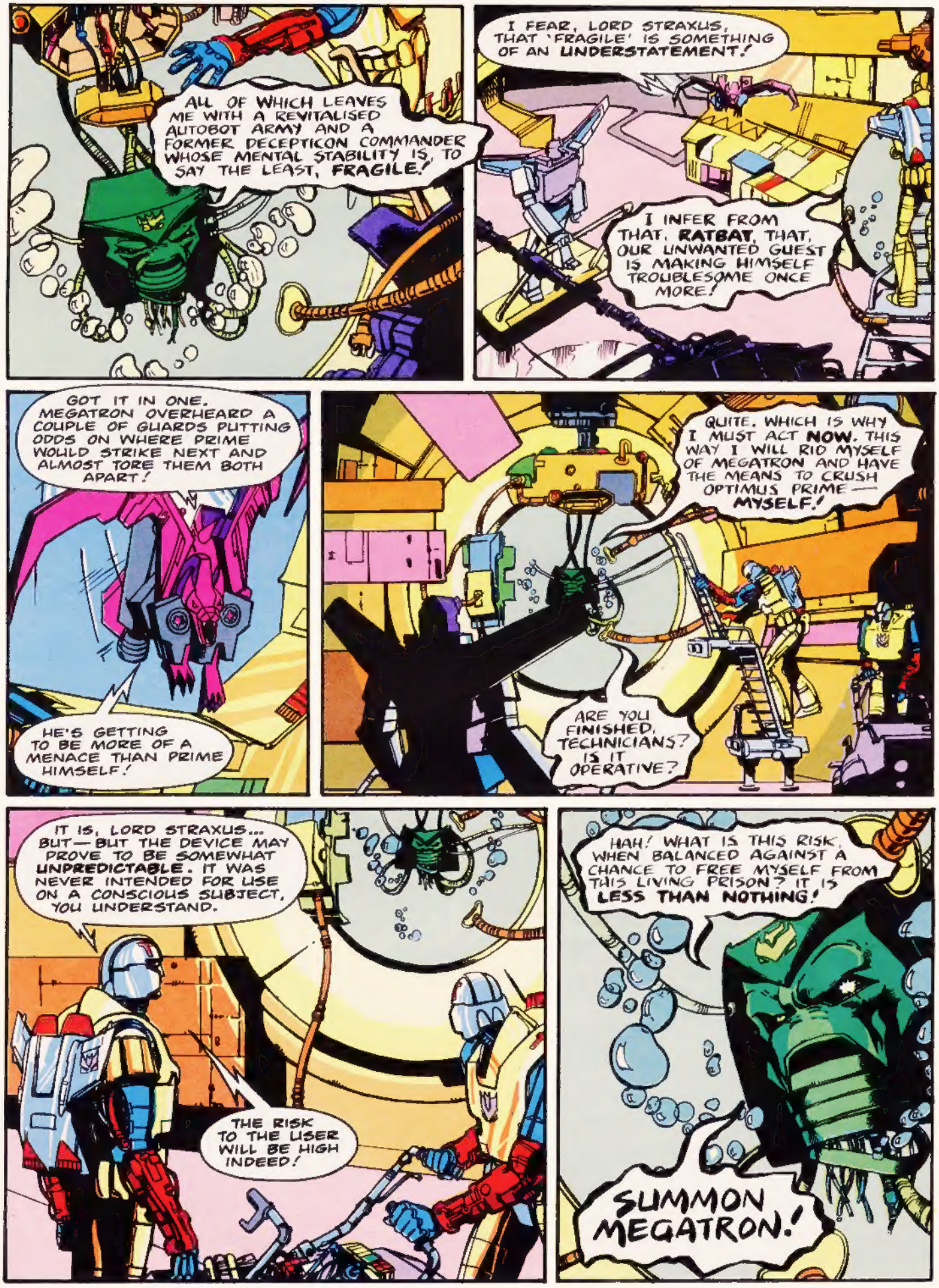
SIDE BY SIDE ON CYBERTRON!

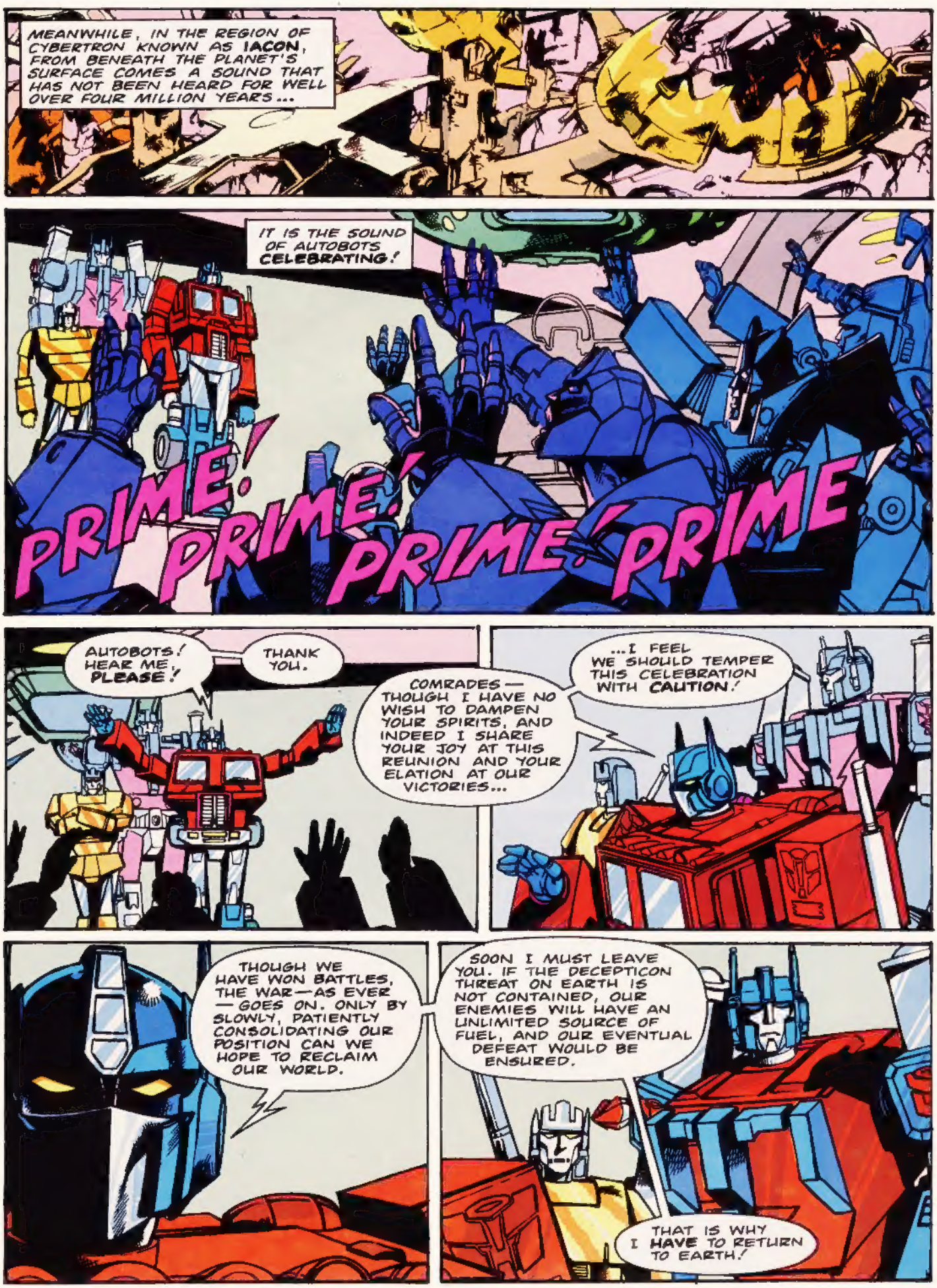

"I DUNNO — IT WAS JUST UNREAL!"
"THERE WE WERE, OVERSEEING ANOTHER SHIPMENT OF ENERGON CUBES FOR DISTRIBUTION TO VARIOUS DECEPTICON STRONGHOLDS ON CYBERTRON..."
"WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN ONE OF THE SLA--...WORKERS TRIPS AND DROPS AN ENERGON CUBE."
"NOTHIN' UNUSUAL IN THAT, BUT AS I STEPPED UP TO HELP HIM TO HIS FEET..."
"IT HAPPENED!"
SHAZ!
"I ONLY JUST MANAGED TO SHIELD MY EYES FROM THE EXPLODING CUBE."
"THE OTHERS WEREN'T SO LUCKY — THE BRILLIANCE LEFT THEM ALL TEMPORARILY BLIND."
"AS IT WAS, IT TOOK A FEW MOMENTS BEFORE MY VISION CLEARED."
"I ALMOST WISH IT HADN'T!"

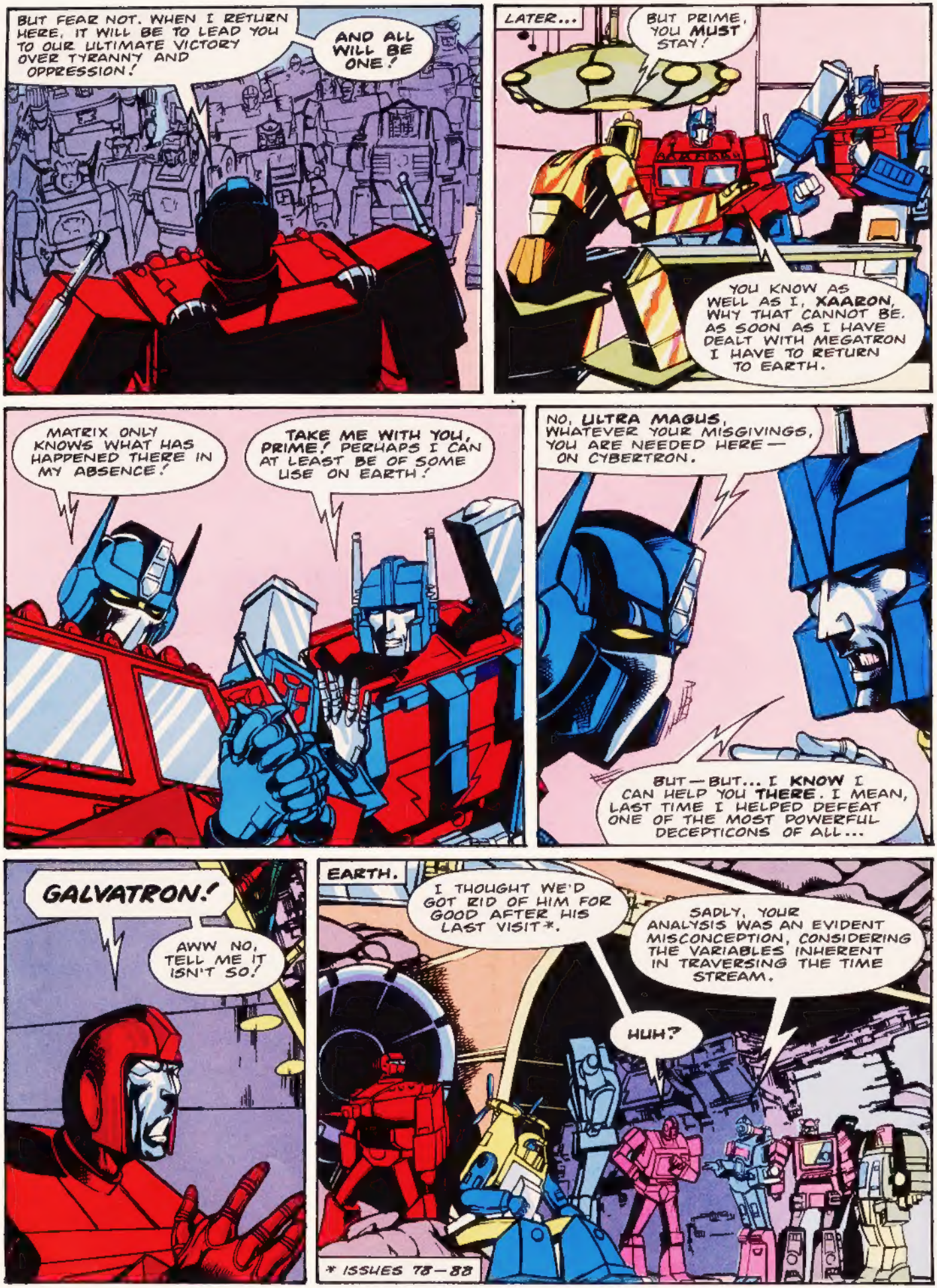

"IT WAS LIKE SEEING YOUR OWN PERSONAL NIGHTMARE COME TO LIFE!"
AUTOBOTS— ATTACK!
RESURRECTION!
< PART 1. >
SCRIPT— SIMON FURMAN, ART— WILL SIMPSON, LETTERS — ANNIE HALFACREE, COLOUR — STEVE WHITE, EDITOR — IAN RIMMER.

"THANKFULLY, AT THIS POINT MY TRAINING TOOK OVER, BANISHING SUCH THOUGHTS!"
GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE...!
"I SUPPOSE THE SIGHT OF OPTIMUS PRIME LEADING THE AUTOBOTS INTO BATTLE AGAIN, AFTER SO MANY YEARS ABSENCE, MIGHT UNNERVE SOME DECEPTICONS..."
"...BUT NOT ME!"
"I THREW MYSELF INTO THE BATTLE..."
"YET FINALLY I WAS OVERWHELMED BY SHEER WEIGHT OF NUMBERS!"
KRANK!
AND WHEN I CAME TO THEY'D GONE... TAKING THE WORKERS AND THE ENERGON CUBES WITH THEM.
WHAT CAN I SAY? I DID MY UTMOST TO STOP THEM, BUT THEY WERE TOO MUCH— EVEN FOR ME!


HMMM... DID I NOT KNOW YOU SO WELL, OCTANE, I MIGHT ALMOST BELIEVE YOUR ACCOUNT OF THE FARCE AT TRANSFERENCE STATION TWO
LORD STRAXUS, I ASSURE YOU--
SILENCE! WHATEVER HAPPENED, THE RESULT IS STILL PAINFULLY CLEAR. THANKS TO OPTIMUS PRIME, THE AUTOBOTS HAVE NOW CARRIED OUT FIVE SUCCESSFUL RAIDS ON OUR FUEL STORES IN AS MANY DAYS!
CURSE HIM... AND CURSE MEGATRON FOR BRINGING HIM HERE FROM EARTH! THE CYBERTRON AUTOBOTS WERE ALMOST BEATEN. SOON EVEN THEIR FEEBLE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT WOULD HAVE CRUMBLED!
"UNTIL, THAT IS, MEGATRON DECIDED TO TRY AND ESCAPE A FIGHTING MAD OPTIMUS PRIME BY SUMMONING THE DIMENSIONAL SPACE BRIDGE THAT LINKS EARTH AND CYBERTRON."
"AND PRIME DECIDED THAT HE TOO WOULD LIKE TO SEE HIS HOMEWORLD ONCE MORE!"
"MEGATRON SOUGHT TO RECTIFY HIS ERROR BY CONVINCING THE AUTOBOTS THAT PRIME WAS A NEAR PERFECT DECEPTICON IMPOSTER, DESIGNED TO INFILTRATE THEIR RANKS..."
"PRIME WAS ALMOST EXECUTED!"
"BUT THE INTERVENTION OF THE AUTOBOT, OUTBACK, BOTH SAVED PRIME'S LIFE AND FURTHER CONVINCED THEM OF HIS TRUE IDENTITY!*"
* ISSUES 98—100

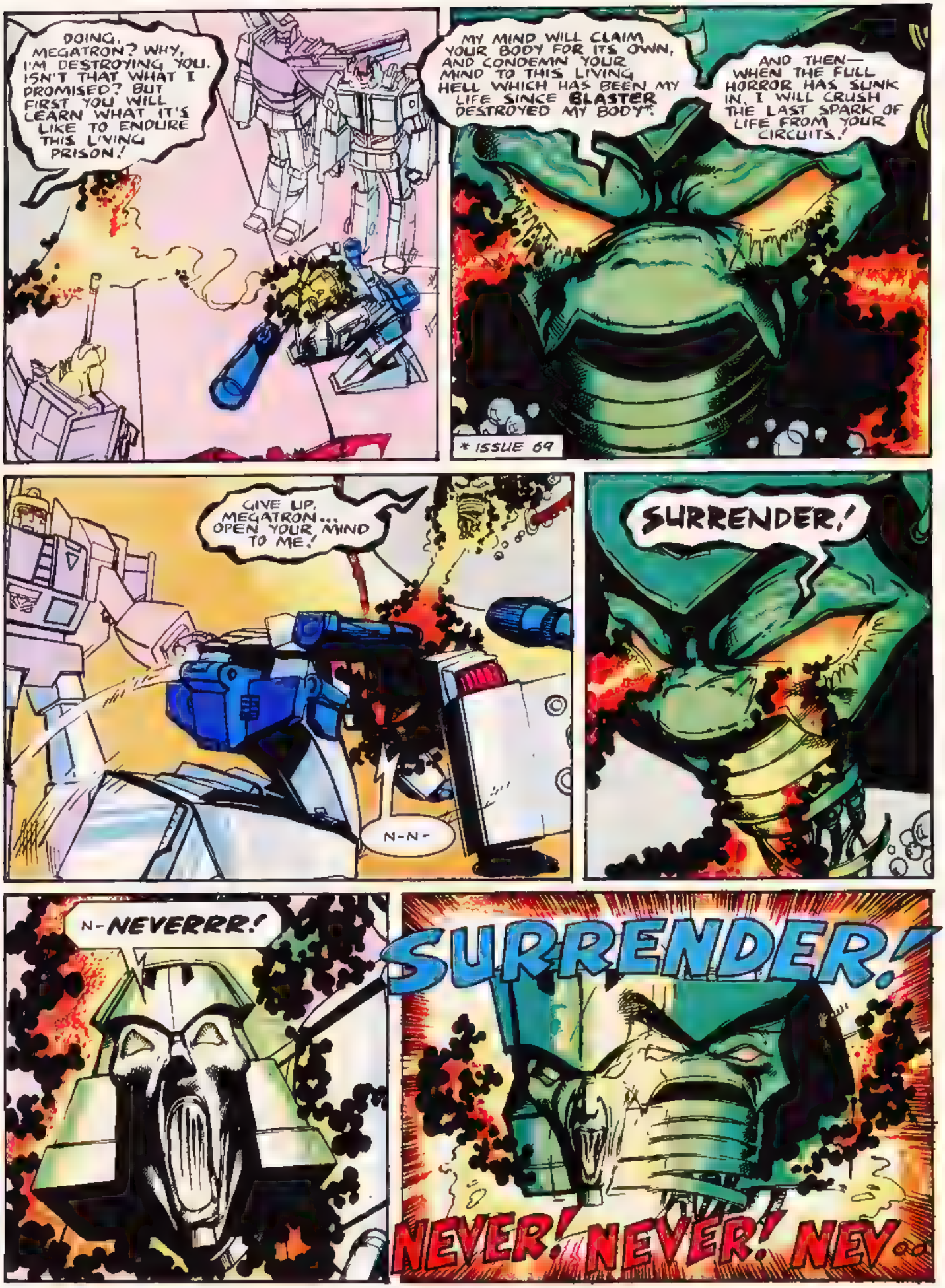

ALL OF WHICH LEAVES ME WITH A REVITALISED AUTOBOT ARMY AND A FORMER DECEPTICON COMMANDER WHOSE MENTAL STABILITY IS, TO SAY THE LEAST, FRAGILE!
I FEAR, LORD STRAXUS, THAT 'FRAGILE' IS SOMETHING OF AN UNDERSTATEMENT!
I INFER FROM THAT, RATBAT, THAT, OUR UNWANTED GUEST IS MAKING HIMSELF TROUBLESOME ONCE MORE!
GOT IT IN ONE. MEGATRON OVERHEARD A COUPLE OF GUARDS PUTTING ODDS ON WHERE PRIME WOULD STRIKE NEXT AND ALMOST TORE THEM BOTH APART!
HE'S GETTING TO BE MORE OF A MENACE THAN PRIME HIMSELF!
QUITE. WHICH IS WHY I MUST ACT NOW. THIS WAY I WILL RID MYSELF OF MEGATRON AND HAVE THE MEANS TO CRUSH OPTIMUS PRIME — MYSELF!
ARE YOU FINISHED, TECHNICIANS? IS IT OPERATIVE?
IT IS, LORD STRAXUS... BUT — BUT THE DEVICE MAY PROVE TO BE SOMEWHAT UNPREDICTABLE. IT WAS NEVER INTENDED FOR USE ON A CONSCIOUS SUBJECT, YOU UNDERSTAND.
THE RISK TO THE USER WILL BE HIGH INDEED!
HAH! WHAT IS THIS RISK, WHEN BALANCED AGAINST A CHANCE TO FREE MYSELF FROM THIS LIVING PRISON? IT IS LESS THAN NOTHING!
SUMMON MEGATRON!

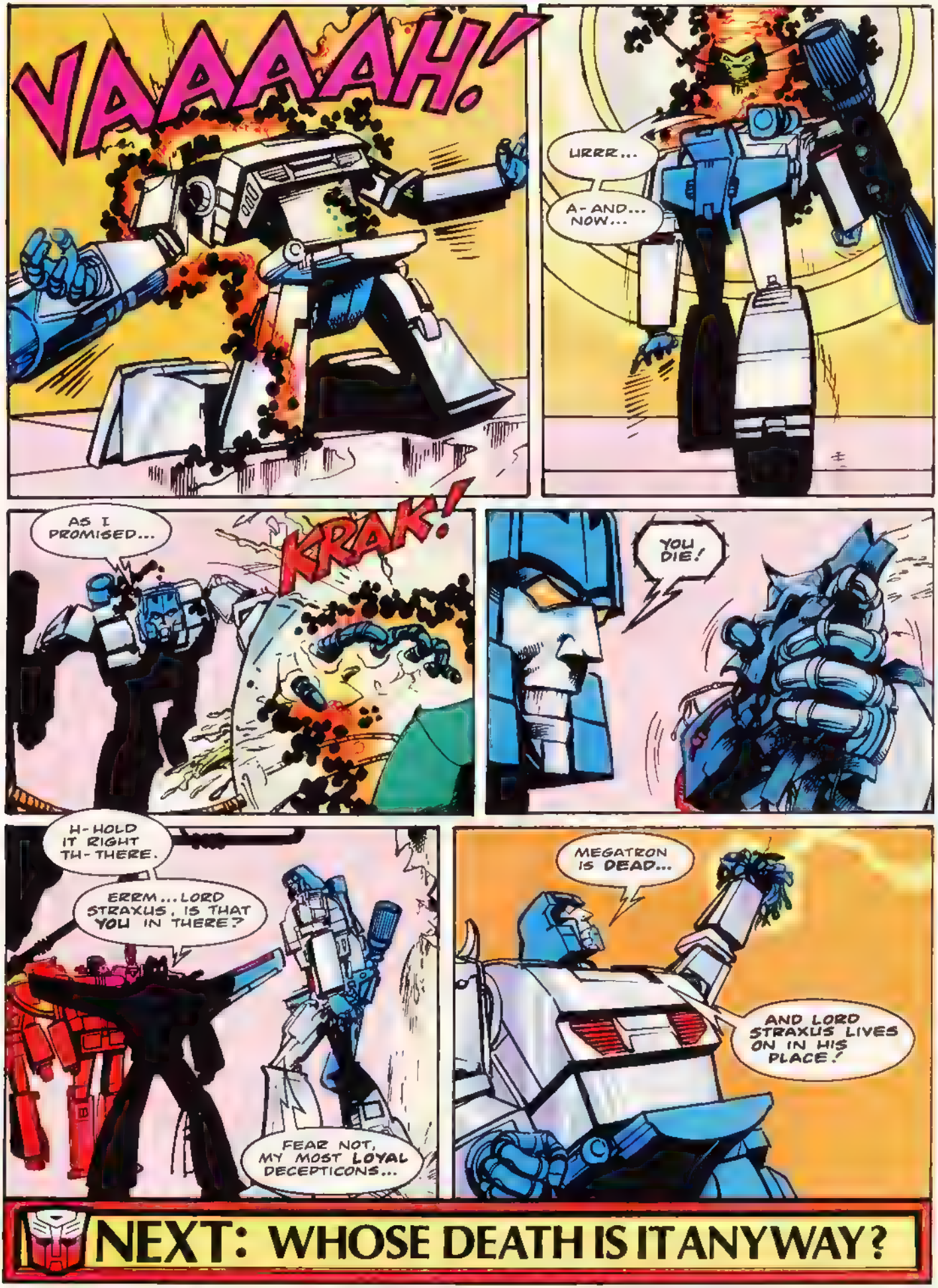

MEANWHILE, IN THE REGION OF CYBERTRON KNOWN AS IACON, FROM BENEATH THE PLANET'S SURFACE COMES A SOUND THAT HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FOR WELL OVER FOUR MILLION YEARS...
IT IS THE SOUND OF AUTOBOTS CELEBRATING!
PRIME! PRIME! PRIME! PRIME!
AUTOBOTS! HEAR ME, PLEASE!
THANK YOU.
COMRADES — THOUGH I HAVE NO WISH TO DAMPEN YOUR SPIRITS, AND INDEED I SHARE YOUR JOY AT THIS REUNION AND YOUR ELATION AT OUR VICTORIES...
...I FEEL WE SHOULD TEMPER THIS CELEBRATION WITH CAUTION!
THOUGH WE HAVE WON BATTLES, THE WAR — AS EVER — GOES ON. ONLY BY SLOWLY, PATIENTLY CONSOLIDATING OUR POSITION CAN WE HOPE TO RECLAIM OUR WORLD.
SOON I MUST LEAVE YOU. IF THE DECEPTICON THREAT ON EARTH IS NOT CONTAINED, OUR ENEMIES WILL HAVE AN UNLIMITED SOURCE OF FUEL, AND OUR EVENTUAL DEFEAT WOULD BE ENSURED.
THAT IS WHY I HAVE TO RETURN TO EARTH!


BUT FEAR NOT. WHEN I RETURN HERE, IT WILL BE TO LEAD YOU TO OUR ULTIMATE VICTORY OVER TYRANNY AND OPPRESSION!
AND ALL WILL BE ONE!
LATER...
BUT PRIME, YOU MUST STAY!
YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I, XAARON, WHY THAT CANNOT BE. AS SOON AS I HAVE DEALT WITH MEGATRON I HAVE TO RETURN TO EARTH.
MATRIX ONLY KNOWS WHAT HAS HAPPENED THERE IN MY ABSENCE!
TAKE ME WITH YOU, PRIME! PERHAPS I CAN AT LEAST BE OF SOME USE ON EARTH!
NO, ULTRA MAGUS, WHATEVER YOUR MISGIVINGS, YOU ARE NEEDED HERE — ON CYBERTRON.
BUT — BUT... I KNOW I CAN HELP YOU THERE. I MEAN, LAST TIME I HELPED DEFEAT ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL DECEPTICONS OF ALL...
GALVATRON!
AWW NO, TELL ME IT ISN'T SO!
EARTH.
I THOUGHT WE'D GOT RID OF HIM FOR GOOD AFTER HIS LAST VISIT*.
SADLY, YOUR ANALYSIS WAS AN EVIDENT MISCONCEPTION, CONSIDERING THE VARIABLES INHERENT IN TRAVERSING THE TIME STREAM.
HUH?
* ISSUES 78—88

WHAT PERCEPTOR MEANS IS — YOU WERE WRONG! HE'S BACK, AND — IF WHAT YOU'VE TOLD US ABOUT HIM IS TRUE — HE'S MORE DANGEROUS THAN EVER!
HE ALMOST TOTALLED ALL SEVEN OF US...
"...WHEN WE RAN INTO HIM YESTERDAY IN EASTERN WYOMING. ONLY THE TIMELY INTERVENTION OF THE DINOBOTS SAVED US!*"
* ISSUES 101/102.
THE DINOBOTS! BLASTER — YOU'VE SEEN THE DINOBOTS?!
HEY — COOL IT WITH THE CONTACT, IRONHIDE!
YEAH, WE'VE SEEN THE DINOBOTS. THEY GAVE US THE DIRECTIONS HERE AND THEN WENT OFF TO PICK UP THE REMAINS OF SOME ROBOTIC BUDDY OF THEIRS. SAID THEY'D BE ALONG IN THEIR OWN TIME.
TYPICAL! JUST WHEN WE NEED THEIR POWER MOST.
WHY NOW, IN PARTICULAR?
WHY NOW?! OH, OF COURSE, YOU COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN...
OPTIMUS PRIME IS DEAD!
CYBERTRON.
OPTIMUS PRIME STILL LIVES!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT, EH? RENDER A FEW MORE OF MY TROOPS INOPERATIVE, PERHAPS?
GO BACK TO EARTH, MEGATRON! YOU NO LONGER BELONG HERE ON CYBERTRON.
PERHAPS PRIME WILL FEEL CONSTRAINED TO FOLLOW YOU IF YOU LEAVE!

YES — YOU'D LIKE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU? BUT NOT BECAUSE YOU FEAR OPTIMUS PRIME, OH NO! YOU FEAR ME, STRAXUS — ME! AND RIGHTLY SO.
BECAUSE SOON — SO VERY SOON — I WILL RIP THROUGH THAT SHELL WITH MY BARE HANDS AND CRUSH WHAT LITTLE REMAINS OF YOU!
VERY WELL. IT SEEMS YOU LEAVE ME LITTLE OPTION.
I WILL HAVE TO DESTROY YOU!
HA, HA, HA! IF LOOKS COULD KILL, PERHAPS!
HOW EXACTLY DO YOU PLAN TO 'DESTROY ME', EH?
LIKE THIS, MEGATRON...
WHA—?
AAARGH!
...AND LIKE THIS!
URRRH... M-MY HEAD... ON FIRE!
WUH-WHAT... ARE YOU DOING TO ME?


DOING, MEGATRON? WHY, I'M DESTROYING YOU. ISN'T THAT WHAT I PROMISED? BUT FIRST YOU WILL LEARN WHAT IT'S LIKE TO ENDURE THIS LIVING PRISON!
MY MIND WILL CLAIM YOUR BODY FOR ITS OWN, AND CONDEMN YOUR MIND TO THIS LIVING HELL WHICH HAS BEEN MY LIFE SINCE BLASTER DESTROYED MY BODY*!
AND THEN— WHEN THE FULL HORROR HAS SUNK IN, I WILL CRUSH THE LAST SPARK OF LIFE FROM YOUR CIRCUITS!
* ISSUE 69
GIVE UP, MEGATRON... OPEN YOUR MIND TO ME!
N-N-
SURRENDER!
N-NEVERRR!
SURRENDER!
NEVER! NEVER! NEV...


VAAAAH!
URRR...
A-AND... NOW...
AS I PROMISED...
KRAK!
YOU DIE!
H-HOLD IT RIGHT TH-THERE.
ERRM... LORD STRAXUS, IS THAT YOU IN THERE?
FEAR NOT, MY MOST LOYAL DECEPTICONS...
MEGATRON IS DEAD...
AND LORD STRAXUS LIVES ON IN HIS PLACE!
NEXT: WHOSE DEATH IS IT ANYWAY?

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THE TRANSFORMERS

HEROIC AUTOBOT

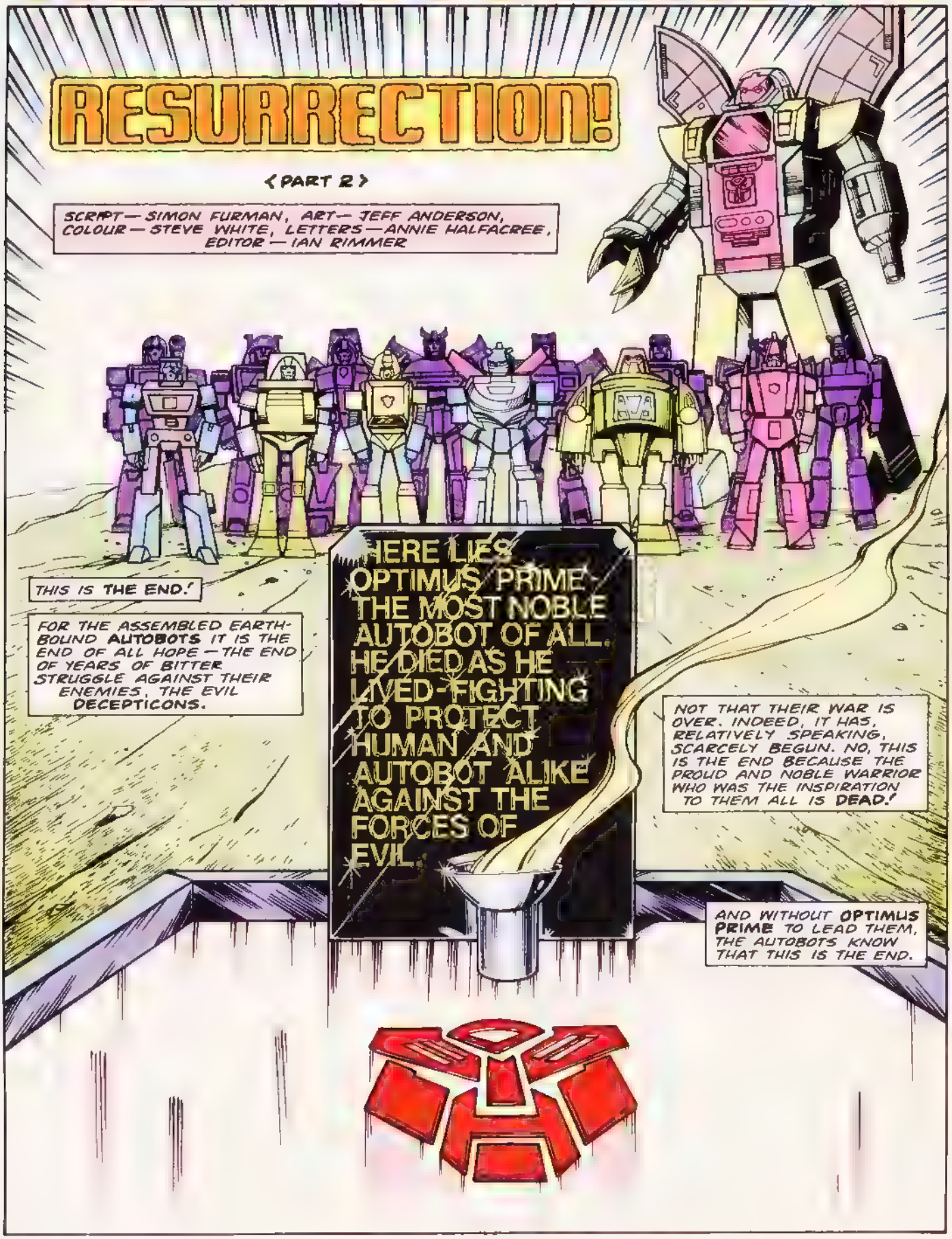
NO MERCY FOR MEGATRON!

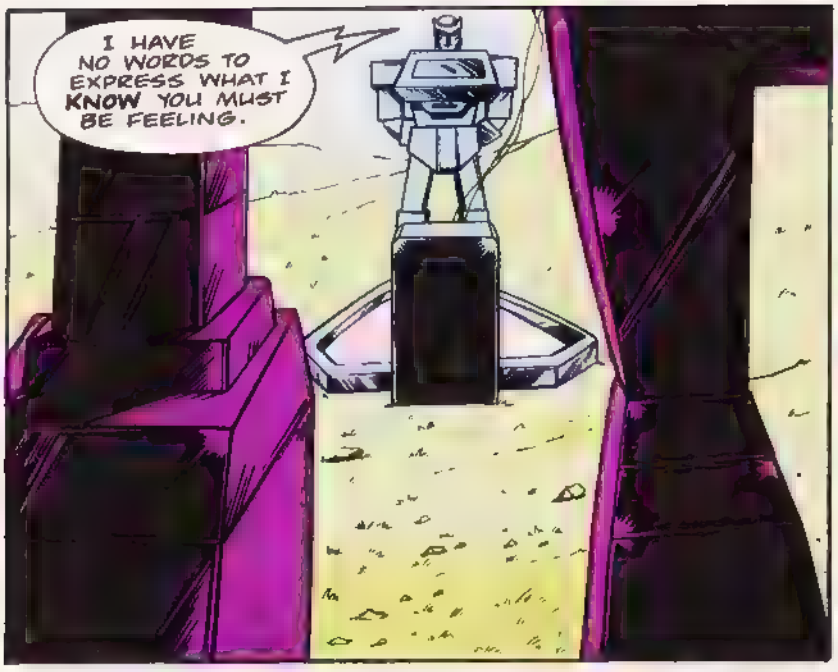
TRANSFORMERS™

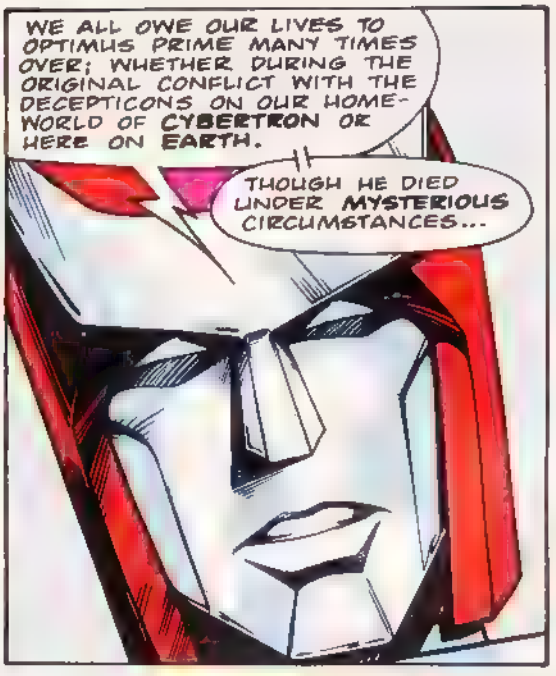
RESURRECTION!

<PART 2>

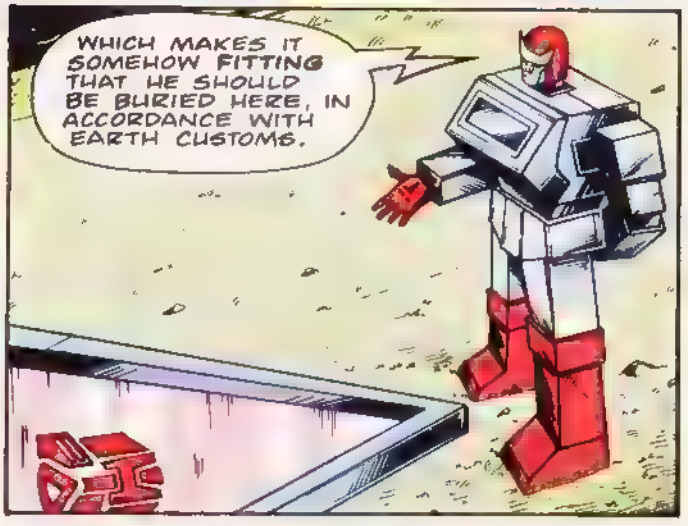
SCRIPT — SIMON FURMAN, ART — JEFF ANDERSON, COLOUR — STEVE WHITE, LETTERS — ANNIE HALFACREE, EDITOR — IAN RIMMER

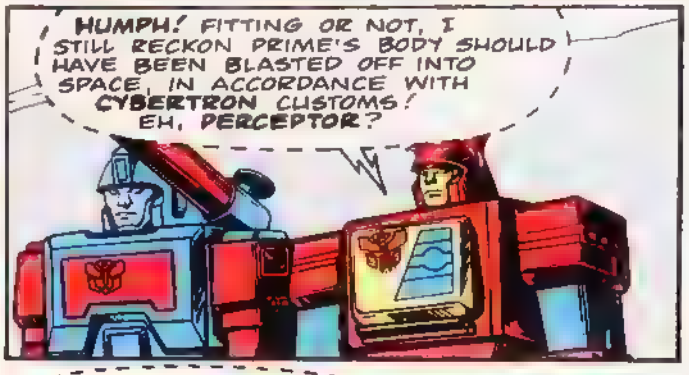

THIS IS THE END.
FOR THE ASSEMBLED EARTH-BOUND AUTOBOTS IT IS THE END OF ALL HOPE — THE END OF YEARS OF BITTER STRUGGLE AGAINST THEIR ENEMIES, THE EVIL DECEPTICONS.
HERE LIES OPTIMUS PRIME THE MOST NOBLE AUTOBOT OF ALL. HE DIED AS HE LIVED-FIGHTING TO PROTECT HUMAN AND AUTOBOT ALIKE AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL.
NOT THAT THEIR WAR IS OVER. INDEED, IT HAS, RELATIVELY SPEAKING, SCARCELY BEGUN. NO, THIS IS THE END BECAUSE THE PROUD AND NOBLE WARRIOR WHO WAS THE INSPIRATION TO THEM ALL IS DEAD!
AND WITHOUT OPTIMUS PRIME TO LEAD THEM, THE AUTOBOTS KNOW THAT THIS IS THE END.

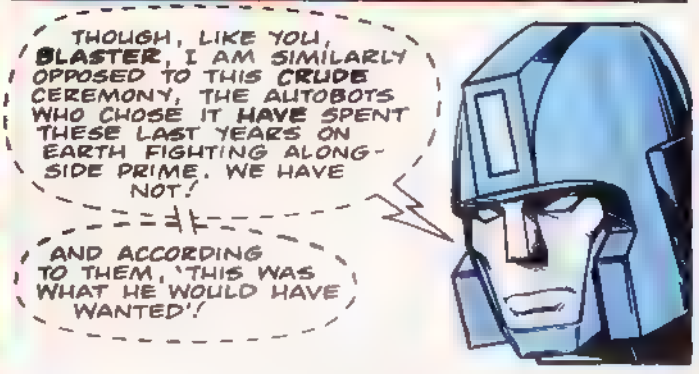

I HAVE NO WORDS TO EXPRESS WHAT I KNOW YOU MUST BE FEELING.

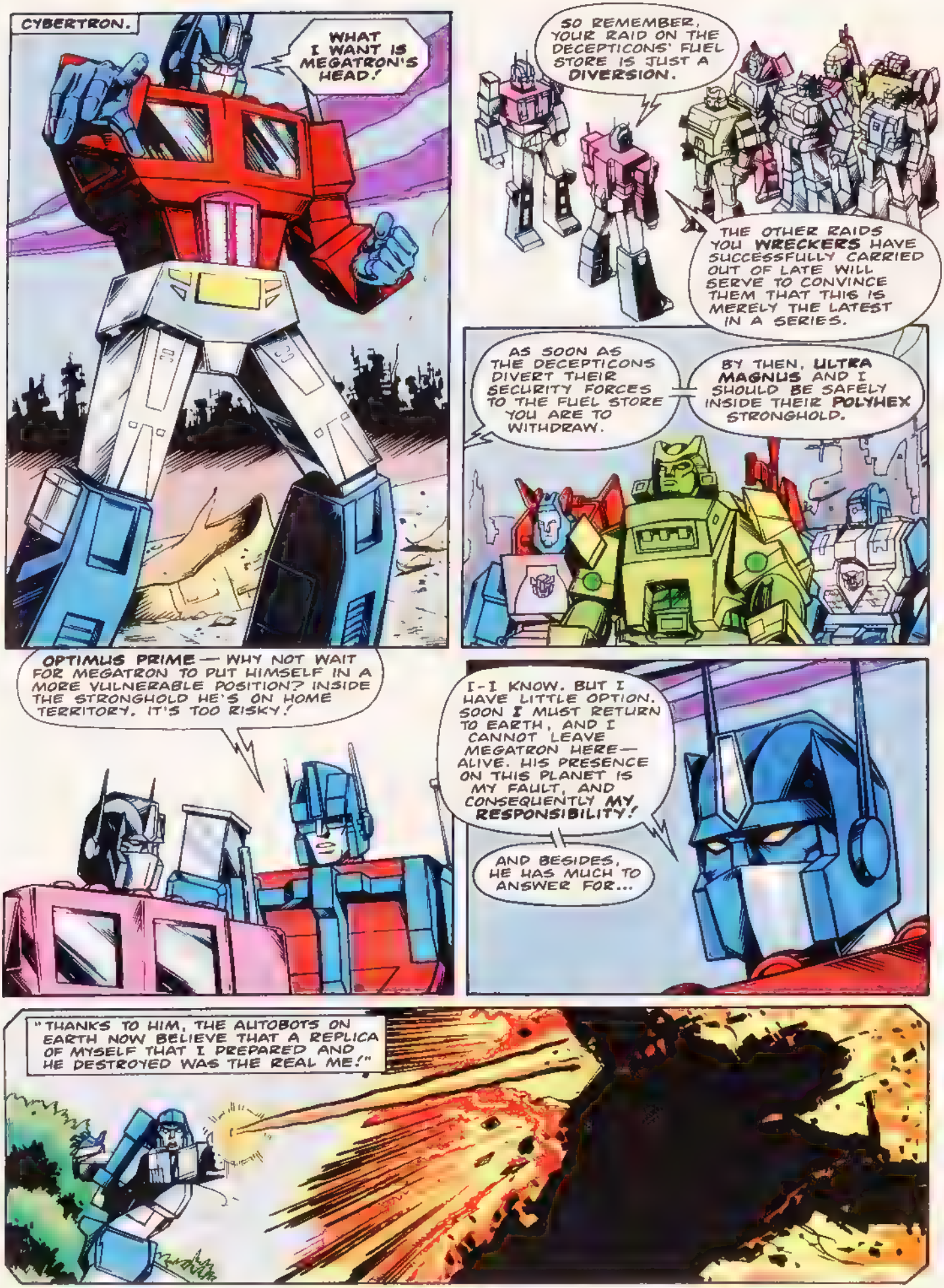

WE ALL OWE OUR LIVES TO OPTIMUS PRIME MANY TIMES OVER; WHETHER DURING THE ORIGINAL CONFLICT WITH THE DECEPTICONS ON OUR HOME-WORLD OF CYBERTRON OR HERE ON EARTH.
THOUGH HE DIED UNDER MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES...

"...THERE SEEMS LITTLE DOUBT THAT IT WAS IN PITCHED BATTLE, WITH THE DECEPTICONS, PROBABLY DEFENDING — AS HE HAS DONE ON SO MANY OTHER OCCASIONS — THE INNOCENT INHABITANTS OF THIS WORLD.*"
* SEE ISSUES 96 — 98 FOR THE FULL STORY.


WHICH MAKES IT SOMEHOW FITTING THAT HE SHOULD BE BURIED HERE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH EARTH CUSTOMS.

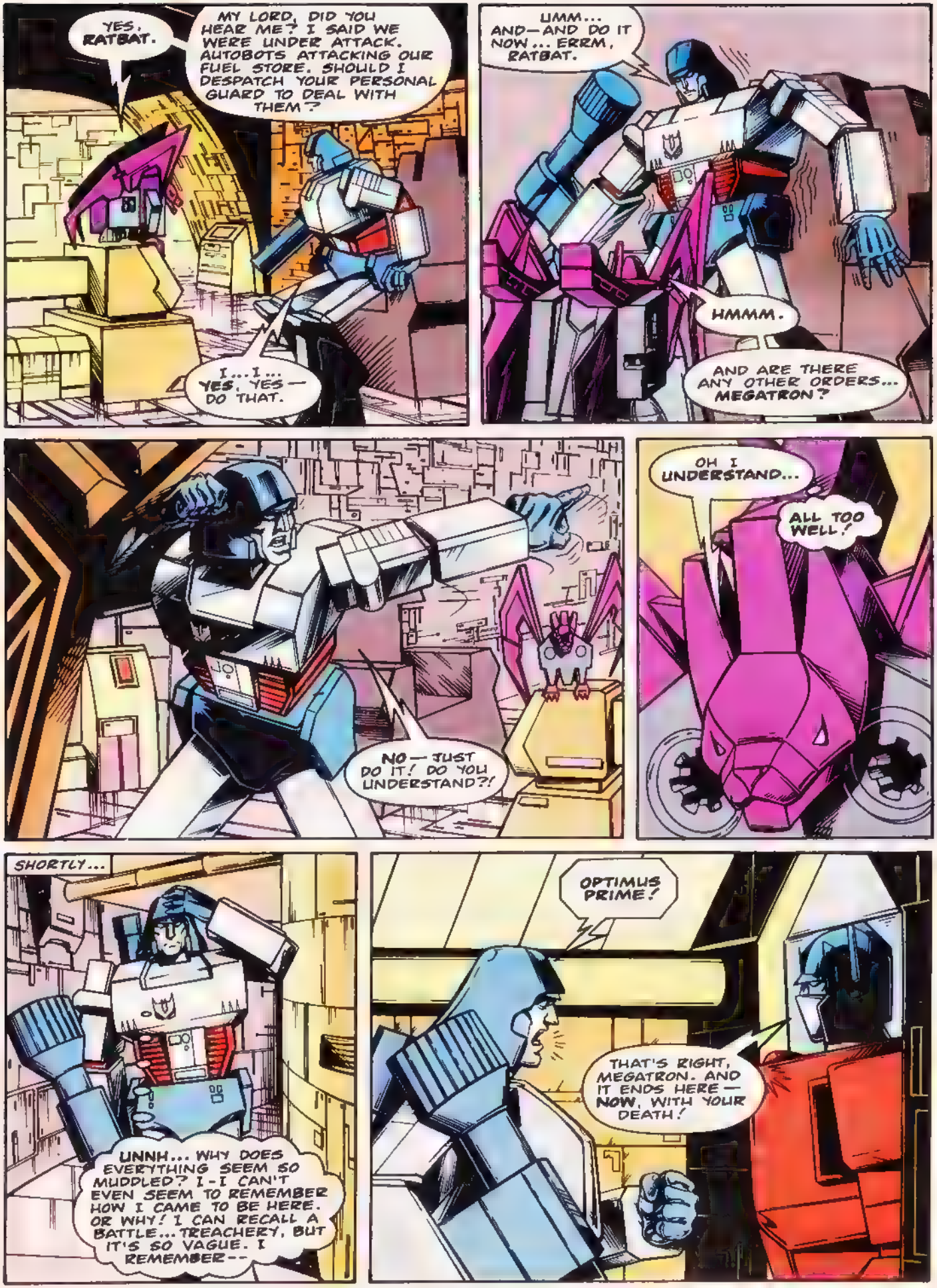

HUMPH! FITTING OR NOT, I STILL RECKON PRIME'S BODY SHOULD HAVE BEEN BLASTED OFF INTO SPACE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CYBERTRON CUSTOMS! EH, PERCEPTOR?

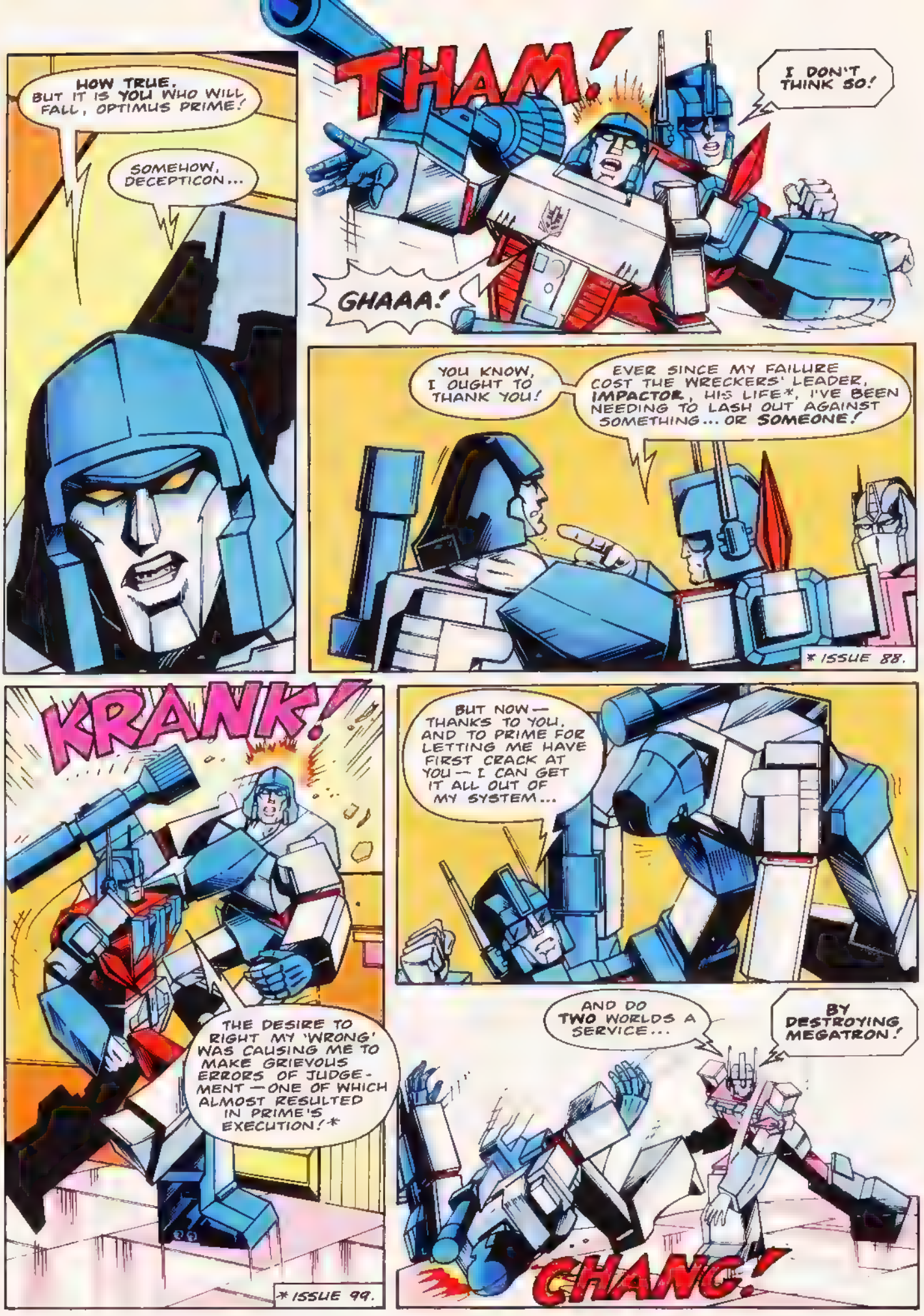

THOUGH, LIKE YOU, BLASTER, I AM SIMILARLY OPPOSED TO THIS CRUDE CEREMONY, THE AUTOBOTS WHO CHOSE IT HAVE SPENT THESE LAST YEARS ON EARTH FIGHTING ALONGSIDE PRIME. WE HAVE NOT!
AND ACCORDING TO THEM, 'THIS WAS WHAT HE WOULD HAVE WANTED'!


CYBERTRON.
WHAT I WANT IS MEGATRON'S HEAD!
SO REMEMBER, YOUR RAID ON THE DECEPTICONS' FUEL STORE IS JUST A DIVERSION.
THE OTHER RAIDS YOU WRECKERS HAVE SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT OF LATE WILL SERVE TO CONVINCE THEM THAT THIS IS MERELY THE LATEST IN A SERIES.
AS SOON AS THE DECEPTICONS DIVERT THEIR SECURITY FORCES TO THE FUEL STORE YOU ARE TO WITHDRAW.
BY THEN, ULTRA MAGNUS AND I SHOULD BE SAFELY INSIDE THEIR POLYHEX STRONGHOLD.
OPTIMUS PRIME — WHY NOT WAIT FOR MEGATRON TO PUT HIMSELF IN A MORE VULNERABLE POSITION? INSIDE THE STRONGHOLD HE'S ON HOME TERRITORY. IT'S TOO RISKY!
I-I KNOW. BUT I HAVE LITTLE OPTION. SOON I MUST RETURN TO EARTH, AND I CANNOT LEAVE MEGATRON HERE— ALIVE. HIS PRESENCE ON THIS PLANET IS MY FAULT, AND CONSEQUENTLY MY RESPONSIBILITY!
AND BESIDES, HE HAS MUCH TO ANSWER FOR...
"THANKS TO HIM, THE AUTOBOTS ON EARTH NOW BELIEVE THAT A REPLICA OF MYSELF THAT I PREPARED AND HE DESTROYED WAS THE REAL ME!"

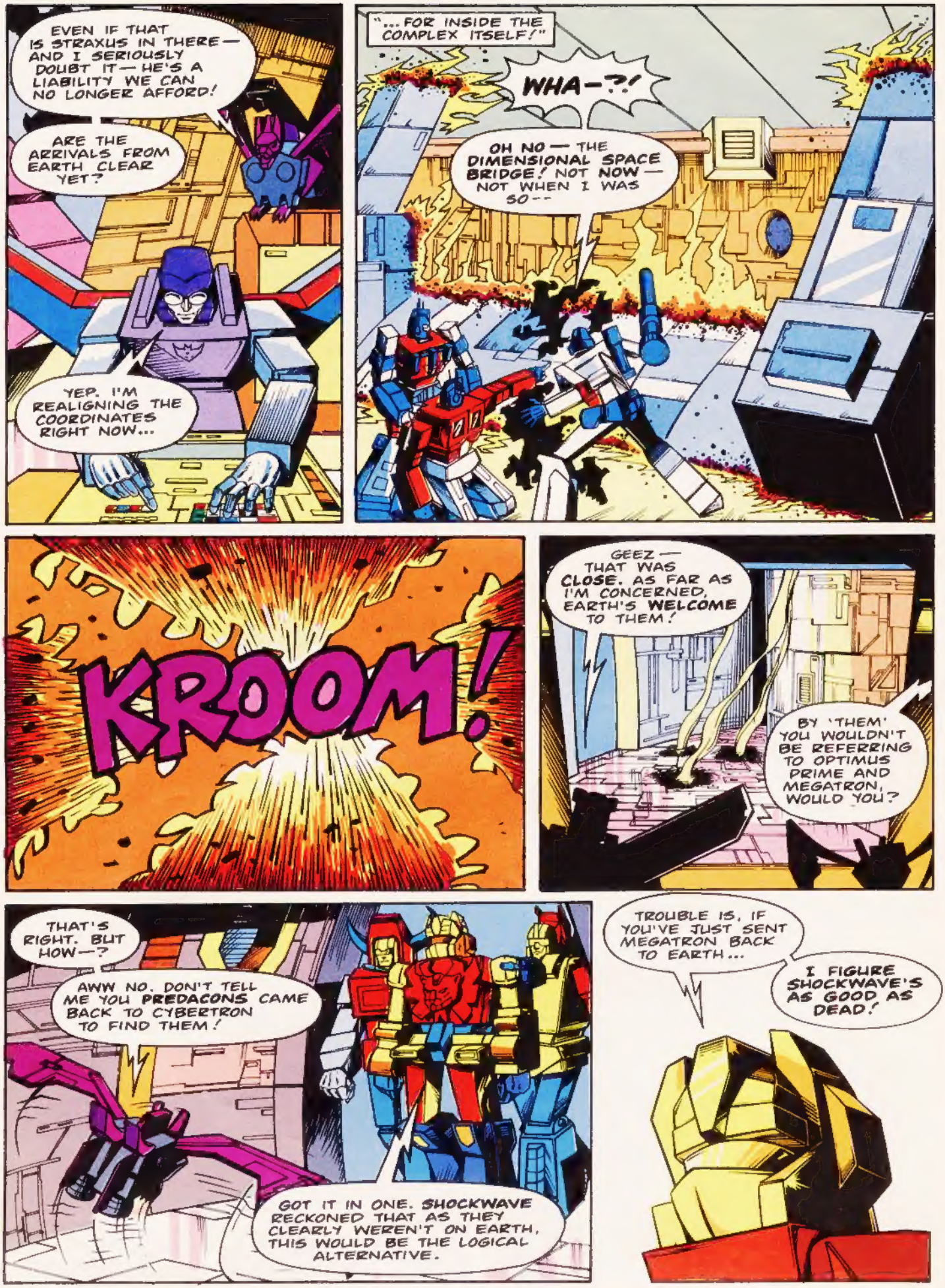
"AND THEN, HERE ON CYBERTRON, HIS WARPED SCHEMES NEARLY COST BOTH OUTBACK AND I OUR LIVES*."
* ISSUES 99—100
NO—THERE CAN BE NO DELAY! MEGATRON'S THREAT MUST BE ENDED NOW!
FORWARD, AUTOBOTS...
"FORWARD TO POLYHEX!"
HE IS MEGATRON—THE FEARED DECEPTICON COMMANDER WHO DECLARED WAR ON THE PEACE-LOVING AUTOBOTS OF CYBERTRON OVER FOUR MILLION YEARS AGO, AND SUBSEQUENTLY CONTINUED THAT WAR ON PRESENT DAY EARTH.
NO. HE IS--
HE IS LORD STRAXUS—THE CRUEL, MERCILESS DECEPTICON WHO SEIZED POWER ON CYBERTRON FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION OF MEGATRON'S SUCCESSOR, AND HAS RULED UNCHALLENGED EVER SINCE.
NO. HE IS--
AAAAAH!
IN TRUTH, HE DOESN'T KNOW EXACTLY WHO HE IS!
UNCHECKED, SPLINTERED IMAGES EXPLODE ACROSS NOT ONE MIND, BUT TWO...

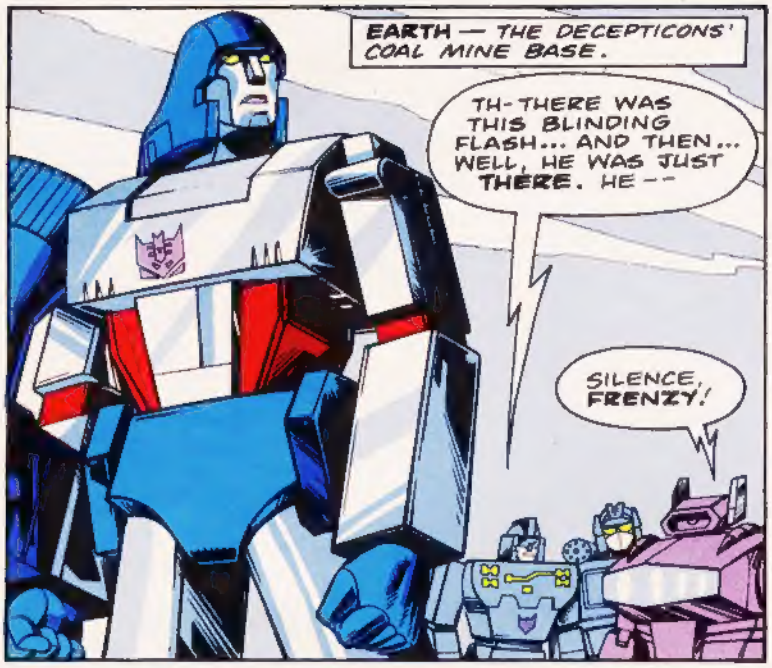
HE IS MEGATRON — AND HE WILL CRUSH THIS MOCKERY OF A DECEPTICON LEADER, WHO HAS DARED TO CHALLENGE HIM!
HE IS STRAXUS — AND HE WILL EXCHANGE THE PRISON OF HIS OWN BODY FOR MEGATRON'S POWERFUL FORM, USING THE MIND-SWAP APPARATUS ATOP HIS LIFE SUPPORT BUBBLE.
HE IS MEGATRON — AND STRAXUS HAS FAILED. HIS MIND IS STILL HIS OWN. REVENGE IS SWIFT, BRUTAL — AND DEADLY!
HE IS STRAXUS — AND HE HAS SUCCEEDED. HE HAS SWAPPED BODIES WITH MEGATRON, AND NOW STRAXUS ALONE LIVES ON — MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER BEFORE!
HE IS MEGATRON. HE IS STRAXUS... MEGATRON... STRAXUS... MEG--
THE IMAGES FADE AS ONE UNITED MIND TUMBLES INTO THE DARK, YAWNING CHASM OF INSANITY...
...ONLY TO BE SNATCHED BACK INTO THE LIGHT!
LORD STRAXUS — WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
UNNH... WHAT?!
OH... ER... RATBAT.

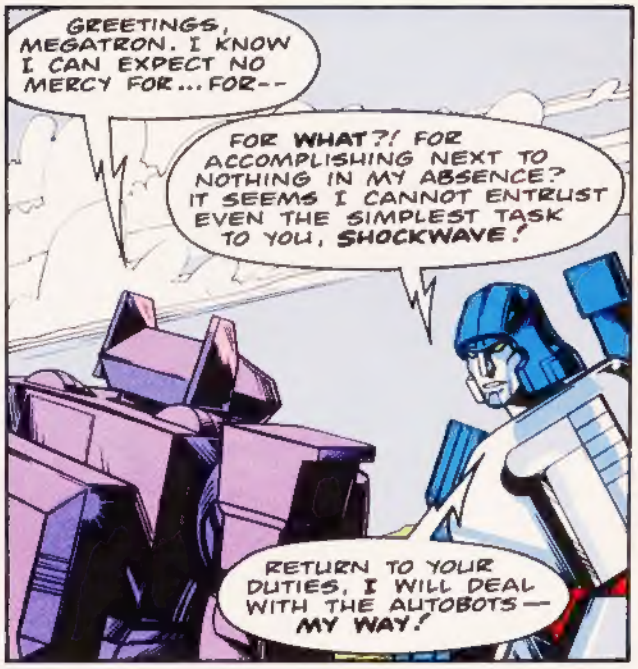

YES, RATBAT.
MY LORD, DID YOU HEAR ME? I SAID WE WERE UNDER ATTACK. AUTOBOTS ATTACKING OUR FUEL STORE. SHOULD I DESPATCH YOUR PERSONAL GUARD TO DEAL WITH THEM?
I...I... YES, YES — DO THAT.
UMM... AND—AND DO IT NOW... ERRM, RATBAT.
HMMM.
AND ARE THERE ANY OTHER ORDERS... MEGATRON?
NO — JUST DO IT! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?!
OH I UNDERSTAND...
ALL TOO WELL!
SHORTLY...
UNNH... WHY DOES EVERYTHING SEEM SO MUDDLED? I-I CAN'T EVEN SEEM TO REMEMBER HOW I CAME TO BE HERE. OR WHY! I CAN RECALL A BATTLE... TREACHERY, BUT IT'S SO VAGUE. I REMEMBER--
OPTIMUS PRIME!
THAT'S RIGHT, MEGATRON. AND IT ENDS HERE — NOW, WITH YOUR DEATH!

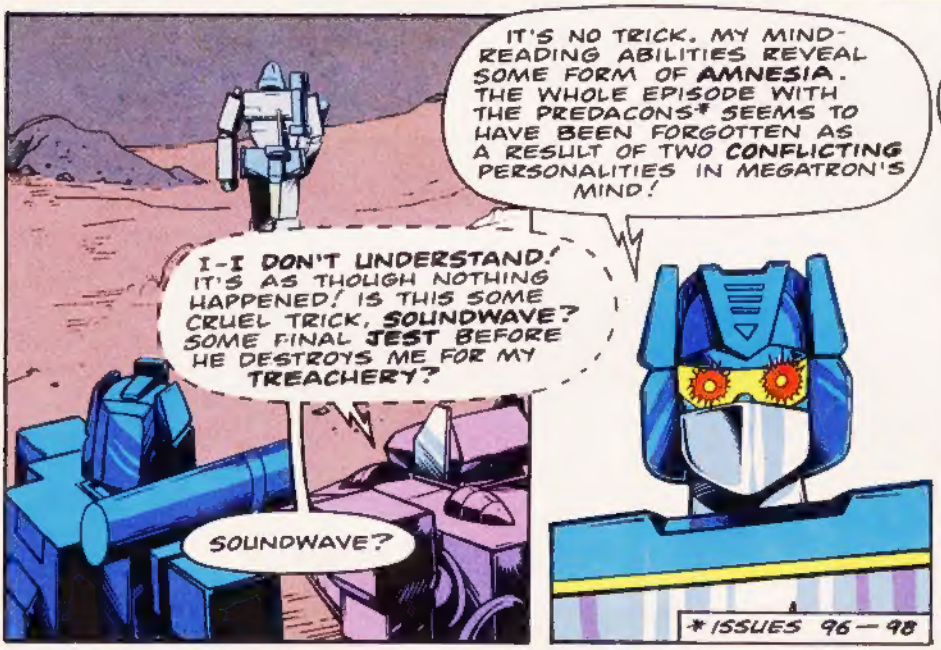

HOW TRUE. BUT IT IS YOU WHO WILL FALL, OPTIMUS PRIME!
SOMEHOW, DECEPTICON...
THAM!
I DON'T THINK SO!
GHAAA!
YOU KNOW, I OUGHT TO THANK YOU!
EVER SINCE MY FAILURE COST THE WRECKERS' LEADER, IMPACTOR, HIS LIFE*, I'VE BEEN NEEDING TO LASH OUT AGAINST SOMETHING... OR SOMEONE!
* ISSUE 88.
KRANK!
THE DESIRE TO RIGHT MY 'WRONG' WAS CAUSING ME TO MAKE GRIEVOUS ERRORS OF JUDGEMENT — ONE OF WHICH ALMOST RESULTED IN PRIME'S EXECUTION!*
* ISSUE 99.
BUT NOW — THANKS TO YOU, AND TO PRIME FOR LETTING ME HAVE FIRST CRACK AT YOU — I CAN GET IT ALL OUT OF MY SYSTEM...
AND DO TWO WORLDS A SERVICE...
BY DESTROYING MEGATRON!
CHANG!

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, MEGATRON, I TRULY WISH THERE WAS ANOTHER WAY. BUT FOR THE GOOD OF ALL, YOU MUST DIE!
HE SCREENS OUT THE WORDS AND CONCENTRATES...
UTILISING A LITTLE USED ABILITY TO CONNECT HIS INTERNAL CIRCUITRY TO THE LETHAL ANTI-MATTER ENERGY OF A BLACK HOLE IN SPACE.
LETHAL BECAUSE, WHEN ANTI-MATTER AND MATTER CONNECT, THE RESULT — TO SAY THE LEAST...
IS EXPLOSIVE!
FRA-CHOOM!
HE KNOWS THAT THE ENERGY HE WIELDS IS WILDLY UNSTABLE, AND LIABLE NOT JUST TO KILL HIS HELPLESS FOES, BUT ALSO HIMSELF AND EVERYTHING FOR MILES AROUND...
AND HE DOESN'T CARE!
HE DOESN'T CARE!
HE'S GOING TO DESTROY US ALL!

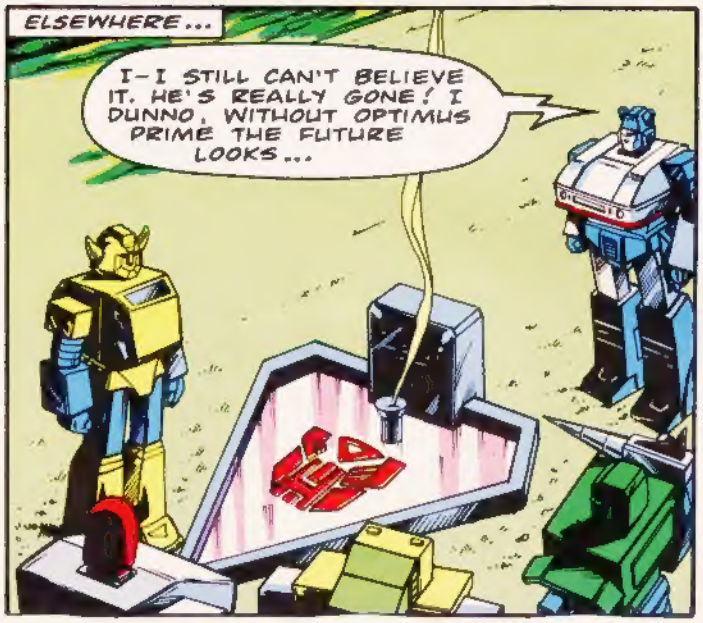

EVEN IF THAT IS STRAXUS IN THERE— AND I SERIOUSLY DOUBT IT— HE'S A LIABILITY WE CAN NO LONGER AFFORD!
ARE THE ARRIVALS FROM EARTH CLEAR YET?
YEP. I'M REALIGNING THE COORDINATES RIGHT NOW...
"...FOR INSIDE THE COMPLEX ITSELF!"
WHA—?!
OH NO — THE DIMENSIONAL SPACE BRIDGE! NOT NOW — NOT WHEN I WAS SO--
KROOM!
GEEZ — THAT WAS CLOSE. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, EARTH'S WELCOME TO THEM!
BY 'THEM' YOU WOULDN'T BE REFERRING TO OPTIMUS PRIME AND MEGATRON, WOULD YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT. BUT HOW—?
AWW NO. DON'T TELL ME YOU PREDACONS CAME BACK TO CYBERTRON TO FIND THEM!
GOT IT IN ONE. SHOCKWAVE RECKONED THAT AS THEY CLEARLY WEREN'T ON EARTH, THIS WOULD BE THE LOGICAL ALTERNATIVE.
TROUBLE IS, IF YOU'VE JUST SENT MEGATRON BACK TO EARTH...
I FIGURE SHOCKWAVE'S AS GOOD AS DEAD!

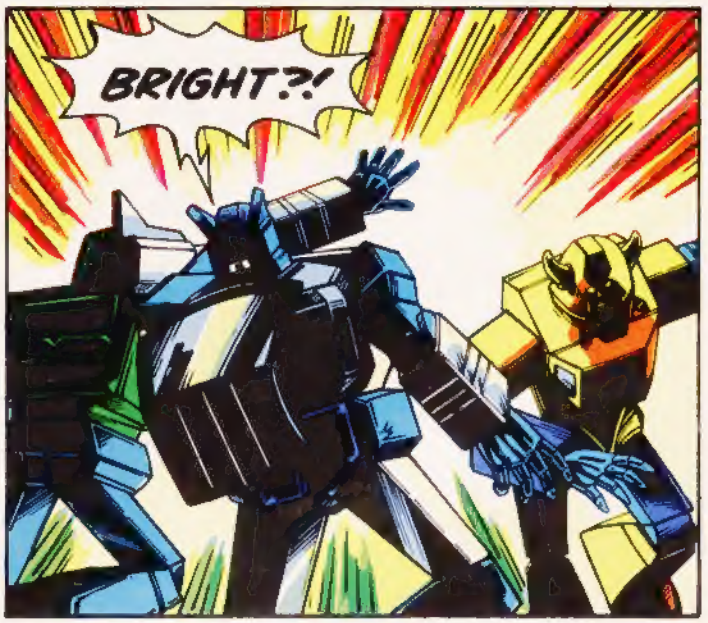

EARTH — THE DECEPTICONS' COAL MINE BASE.
TH-THERE WAS THIS BLINDING FLASH... AND THEN... WELL, HE WAS JUST THERE. HE --
SILENCE, FRENZY!

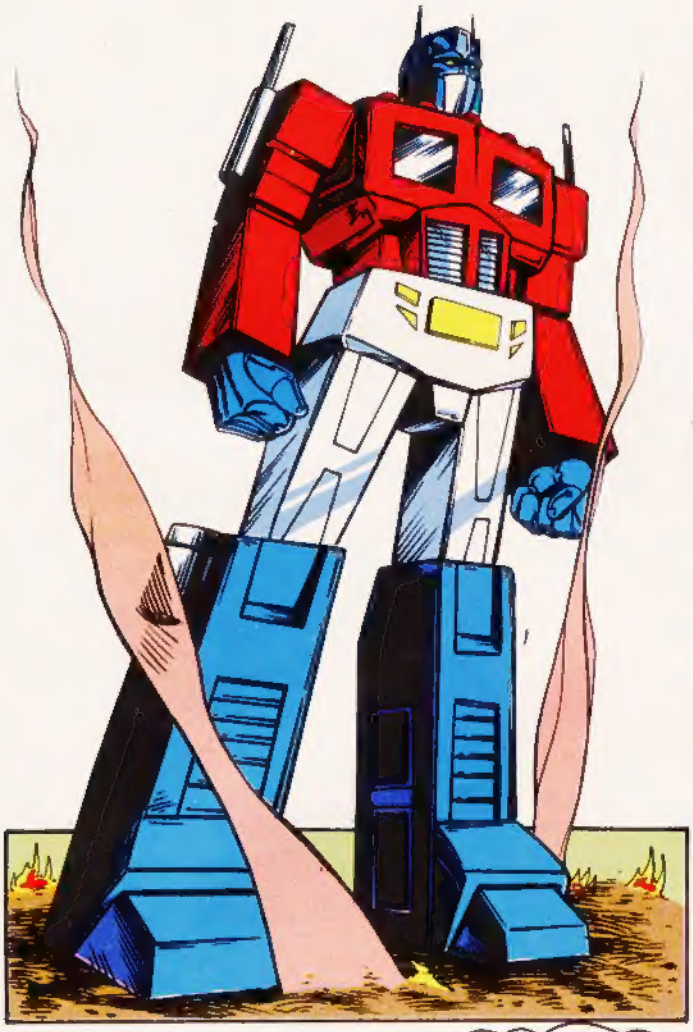

GREETINGS, MEGATRON. I KNOW I CAN EXPECT NO MERCY FOR... FOR--
FOR WHAT?! FOR ACCOMPLISHING NEXT TO NOTHING IN MY ABSENCE? IT SEEMS I CANNOT ENTRUST EVEN THE SIMPLEST TASK TO YOU, SHOCKWAVE!
RETURN TO YOUR DUTIES, I WILL DEAL WITH THE AUTOBOTS— MY WAY!

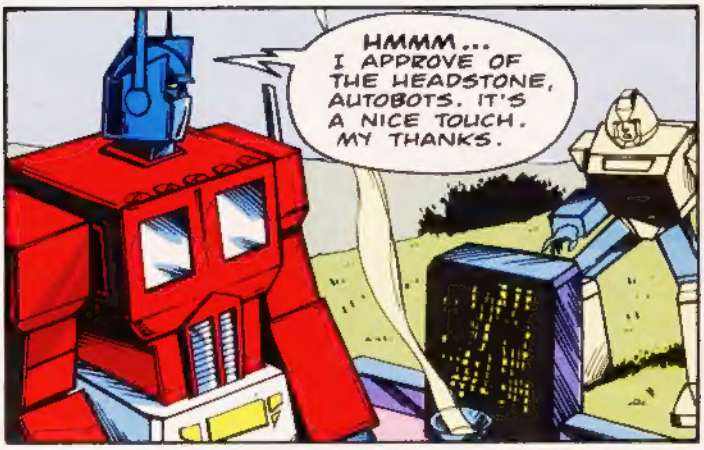

IT'S NO TRICK. MY MIND-READING ABILITIES REVEAL SOME FORM OF AMNESIA. THE WHOLE EPISODE WITH THE PREDACONS* SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN FORGOTTEN AS A RESULT OF TWO CONFLICTING PERSONALITIES IN MEGATRON'S MIND!
I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND! IT'S AS THOUGH NOTHING HAPPENED! IS THIS SOME CRUEL TRICK, SOUNDWAVE? SOME FINAL JEST BEFORE HE DESTROYS ME FOR MY TREACHERY?
SOUNDWAVE?
*ISSUES 96—98

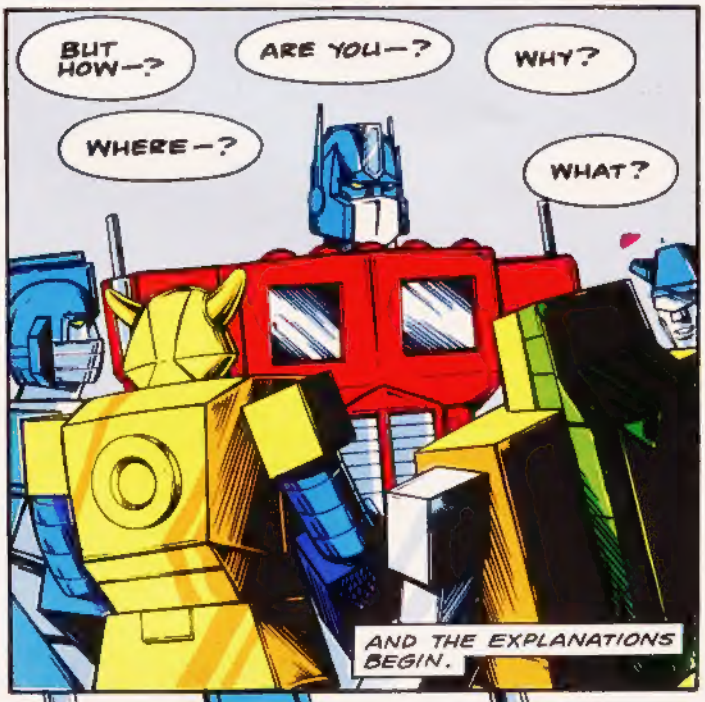
EXCELLENT! IT WAS FORTUITOUS INDEED THAT I SENT THE PREDACONS BACK TO CYBERTRON. IT SEEMS I AM BACK TO SQUARE ONE WITH MEGATRON...
UNTIL NEXT TIME!

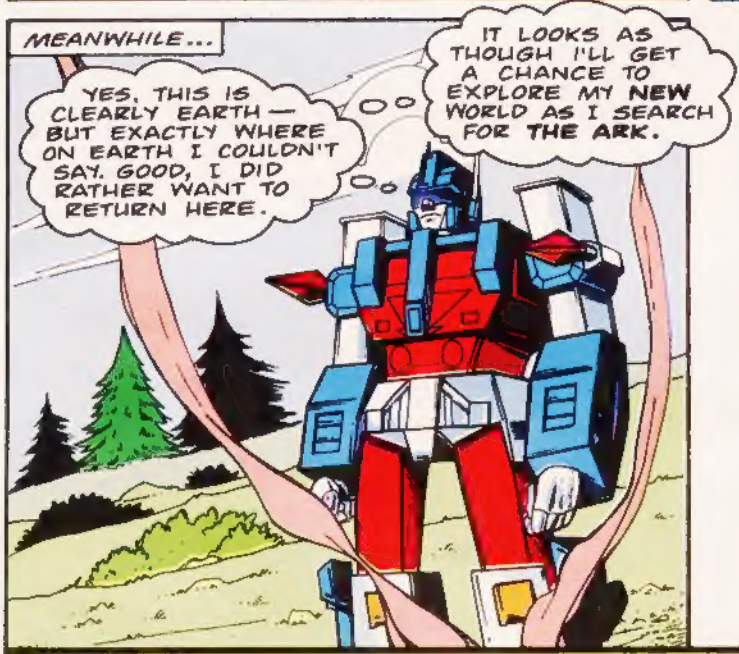

ELSEWHERE...
I-I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT. HE'S REALLY GONE! I DUNNO. WITHOUT OPTIMUS PRIME THE FUTURE LOOKS...


BRIGHT?!








MEANWHILE...
YES, THIS IS CLEARLY EARTH— BUT EXACTLY WHERE ON EARTH I COULDN'T SAY. GOOD, I DID RATHER WANT TO RETURN HERE.
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH I'LL GET A CHANCE TO EXPLORE MY NEW WORLD AS I SEARCH FOR THE ARK.

NEXT: AFTERDEATH!